as to enhance the productivity and production of foodgrains in India. Field demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are being organised for effective transfer of technology with a view to increasing production/productivity.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Sironj, Madhya Pradesh

†22. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints against 'Krishi Vigyan Kendra' functioning at Sironj in Vidisha district of Madhya Pradesh, if so, the outcome of the investigations made into those complaints;

(b) whether said Kendra will be disassociated from the organisation which runs the said Krishi Vigyan Kendra keeping in mind the seriousness of the complaints of corruption, favouritism and irregularities in the said organisation;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred by Government on the said Vigyan Kendra so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Complaints were received against the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) at Sironj, district Vidhisha, Madhya Pradesh functioning since 1992-93 under the administrative control of Sri Malwa Mahila Vikas Samiti (SMMVS), Bhopal.

A High Powered Committee headed by Vice Chancellor, Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology was constituted to look into the issues viz., development of infrastructural facilities including buildings, procedure followed for recruitment of staff, use of vehicles and farm machineries and financial management.

The Committee concluded its report by recording that 'the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

committee did not have reasons to believe that there were misappropriation of funds allotted by ICAR. Audit Utilisation Certificates also confirmed the utilisation of funds within budgetary limit'

Based on the recommendations of the committee for streamlining the procedures and maintenance of records for financial transactions, the concerned staff of the KVK was oriented and further follow up was made by the Zonal Coordinating Unit.

(b) and (c) In view of above, there is no such proposal at present.

(d) An amount of Rs. 110.87 lakhs has been released to the KVK since its inception till 1998-99.

NCDC finance for Fish Market

23. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Cooperative Development Cooperation has evolved any plan to finance fish markets in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to encourage the development of marketing infrastructure for fishermen in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) NCDC has not evolved any specific plan to finance fish market, especially in Andhra Pradesh. However, NCDC is operating Integrated Fisheries Development Projects (IFDP) in the country wherein all the activities from production to marketing are covered. As on 31.3.99, NCDC has released an amount of Rs. 1479.415 lakhs to the Andhra Pradesh under the IFDP scheme. Further, NCDC has not received any such proposals from Andhra Pradesh recommended by the State Government.